

At the hybrid **MEETING of COUNCIL** held on Wednesday 20th November 2024, commencing at 6.00pm.

PRESENT

Councillor Miss C. L. Williams (Mayor)

Councillors M. Blackwell, Mrs J. Butterfield JP MBE, Mrs J. Chamberlain-Jones, Mrs E. M. Chard, Mrs J. M. Evans, S. Feeney, A. R. James, K. R. Jones, Mrs D. L. King, Ms J. L. McAlpine, W. Price, D. Simmons and A. Walker.

Mr G. J. Nickels – Town Clerk
Miss H. J. Windus – Deputy Clerk

71. OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

The Mayor's Chaplain, Father Anthony Nnamah MSP, led all those who wanted to take part, in prayer.

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Mrs M. A. Blakeley-Walker, Miss S. Fleming, B. Mellor, Ms R. Roberts, Ms V. Roberts and A. J. Rutherford.

72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Town Clerk asked if members had any personal and/or prejudicial interests to declare with regard to any of the business to be considered on the agenda?

Councillor Mrs D. L. King declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item no.5 (Presentation: Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL) – 2025 Events Calendar), due to her being a member of the DLL Board and would vacate the meeting at that point and return for the following item.

73. MINUTES

The minutes of the following meeting of council and committee were submitted for approval as a correct record:

Meeting of Council - 16th October 2024 - Min. Nos. 56-70

Proposed by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and seconded by Councillor A. Walker and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 16th October 2024 - Min. Nos. 23-25

Proposed by Councillor D. Simmons and seconded by Councillor S. Feeney and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

Planning Committee - 6th November 2024 - Min. Nos. 26-28

Proposed by Councillor D. Simmons and seconded by Councillor S. Feeney and **RESOLVED** as a correct record.

To Confirm or otherwise:

Finance & General - 6th November 2024 - Min. Nos. 51-61
Purposes Committee

Proposed by Councillor Miss C. L. Williams and seconded by Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard and **RESOLVED** as a correct record and confirmed for action.

74. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, on the grounds of confidentiality.

75. PRESENTATION: DENBIGHSHIRE LEISURE LIMITED – 2025 EVENTS CALENDAR

The Mayor welcomed Mr Jamie Groves and Mr Gwyn Hughes from Denbighshire Leisure Limited (DLL) to the meeting, and invited them to confidentially update members on the company's position with regard to the events they provide on Denbighshire County Council (DCC) and Rhyl Town Council's behalf, namely the Air Show, the Summertime Weekender and the Christmas Pops and lights switch-on events.

Mr Groves confirmed that he had now met with DCC and advised on their level of contribution towards the above events for 2025, to better inform the Town Council before it too considers its level of contribution.

Mr Groves asked members if they would like to continue with the current programme or if they would like DLL to return with a refreshed proposal for next year?

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk to report to the December Finance and General Purposes Committee, and for members to consider the level of contribution the Town Council wished to make available to DLL for next year's events.

76. OPEN SESSION

The meeting continued in open, non-confidential session.

77. MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor submitted details of events she and the Deputy Mayor had attended over the past month, and referred particularly to the opening of the Wicked Wales International Youth Film Festival at the Wicked Wales Studios on Marsh Road, which she said was a wonderful event.

The Deputy Mayor said that he had thoroughly enjoyed the bonfire and fireworks at the Showfield and reported that attendance this year was up by 40%.

RESOLVED that the report was received.

78. AUTHORISATION OF PAYMENTS/ADDITIONS TO APPROVED SUPPLIERS LIST (SCHEDULE B)

Further to min.no.143 of the meeting of Council held on 15th March 2017 and in accordance with the council's adopted financial regulations, the Chair referred to the Town Clerk's submitted schedule B (a list of non-regular payments to be released over the coming month) (circulated with agenda).

Voucher Number	Supplier	Details of Supply	Amount £
1928	Canda Copying Ltd	Photocopier rental	259.32
1929	Canda Copying Ltd	Photocopier charges	84.68
1930	Pottles Premier Plants Ltd	Daffodil bulbs	324.00
1931	Sandra Williams	Translation services	1,243.50
1932	Core Highways (Signs) Ltd / JTM	Signs & traffic management for Remembrance Sunday	1,460.50
1933	Highline Electrical Ltd	Eye bolt inspections	806.40
1934	Cllr C. L. Williams	Mayoral expenses	23.40
1935	St. John Ambulance	Donation for Remembrance Sunday	130.00
1936	Rhyl Silver Band	Donation for Remembrance Sunday	50.00
	Total Schedule B		£4,381.80

RESOLVED that the schedule was approved for payment and signed by two councillors.

79. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDITORS FOR 2024/25

The Town Clerk referred to his and the Finance Officer's joint report (circulated with agenda) on the appointment of the Town Council's internal and external auditors, which have for more than 15 years been JDH Business Services (internal), who approximately 60-70% of North Wales councils use and who are considered to be experts in the sector, and the Wales Audit Office (external).

The Town Clerk reminded members of the need for them to declare any personal or business interests they might have with regard to both auditors.

RESOLVED that both appointments were approved.

80. FIVE FREE PARKING DAYS

The Town Clerk advised that the Town Council had not used any of its parking days so far this year, and recommended using them from Friday 20th until Tuesday 24th December to encourage shoppers into the town centre.

The Town Clerk asked for volunteers to attach the usual signs to the payment machines in the following six car-parks:

The Library (disabled parking only)
Morley Road
The Railway Station
The Skytower
The Town Hall
West Kinmel Street

RESOLVED that the five free parking days would be from Friday 20th until Tuesday 24th December, and that Councillor K. R. Jones would cover the Library, the Skytower and the Town Hall car-parks, Councillor Mrs E. M. Chard would cover Morley Road and the Railway Station and Councillor A. R. James would do West Kinmel Street.

81. MEMBERS' ITEM: TOWN CENTRE WASTE COLLECTION

Councillors K. R. Jones and Ms J. L. McAlpine sought members support for the Town Council to make representations to Denbighshire County Council with regard to waste collection in the town centre and the collection of surplus waste bins since the introduction of the new Trolibocs system.

The councillors spoke of their ongoing frustrations at the lack of regular waste removal in the town centre over recent weeks, leading to unsightly build-ups in a number of spots.

They made clear that this was not a criticism of DCC's Streetscene staff, who they knew were working flat out, with a very small team of both permanent employees and temporary agency staff, but were now at a loss as to what further action they could take to address the problem.

Members were in agreement that the situation had become a serious concern, and those who are also county councillors assured Councillors Jones and McAlpine, that they too were beyond frustrated and had been doing everything they could to get the waste cleared, with some success.

A member advised that DCC had set up a Task and Finish group to address the waste problem in Rhyl and Prestatyn and suggested that representations be made directly to that group.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk to pass on members comments to the Task and Finish group.

82. QUESTION TIME

No members of the public were present.

83. EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that the Press and Public be excluded from the Meeting for consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960, on the grounds of confidentiality.

84. REVIVING RHYL CIC – LETTER OF SUPPORT

The Town Clerk reported receipt of correspondence from a Mr K. Gurney (circulated with agenda) on behalf of a Community Interest Company called Reviving Rhyl, asking for the Town Council to consider providing him with a letter of support to assist with funding applications.

RESOLVED that unfortunately members felt unable to provide a letter of support as the proposed event was in too early a stage of planning and without a venue, but that Mr Gurney’s interest was greatly appreciated and the Town Council wished him well for the future.

85. PUBLIC TOILETS SUPPORT

Further to min.no.38 of the meeting held on 2nd September 2024, the Town Clerk advised of a delay in the report being submitted to Denbighshire County Council and suggested that the item be deferred until the report had been considered in early December.

RESOLVED that the item was deferred to a future meeting.

86. CHRISTMAS WINDOWS COMPETITION

The Town Clerk sought direction from members around the future of the competition, with the passing of the driving force behind it, Councillor Mrs Win Mullen-James, the ending of the Rhyl BID and the reduction of prizes offered by Morrisons supermarket.

The Town Clerk added that he had spoken to Councillor A. R. James prior to the meeting, who had said that he would like to see the competition retired.

RESOLVED that with regret members felt that this year’s competition should not go ahead, but the Town Clerk to bring the item back in September next year, to give members the opportunity to review it and perhaps do something in Councillor Mullen-James’ memory.

87. CLOSURE OF MEETING

There being no further items of business the Mayor declared the meeting closed.

Mayor:

Date: